

**Claims**

1. A process of producing powder including sodium sesquicarbonate and layered silicate, comprising:

- 5 (a) mixing a sodium silicate aqueous solution with a separately prepared sodium bicarbonate aqueous solution to produce a reaction solution;  
(b) heating the reaction solution to form slurry; and  
(c) drying the slurry to produce the powder.

10 2. The process as set forth in claim 1, wherein a ratio of  $\text{SiO}_2:\text{Na}_2\text{O}$  of sodium silicate in the step of (a) is 2.1:1 - 3.8:1.

3. The process as set forth in claim 1, wherein the step of (b) is conducted at 100 - 150 °C.

15 4. The process as set forth in claim 1 or 3, wherein the slurry contains 50 - 70 % of water in the step of (b).

5. A process of producing powder including sodium sesquicarbonate and layered silicate, comprising:

- 20 (a) mixing sodium silicate, sodium bicarbonate, and water with each other to produce a reaction solution;  
(b) heating the reaction solution to form slurry; and  
(c) drying the slurry to produce the powder.

25 6. The process as set forth in claim 5, wherein a ratio of  $\text{SiO}_2:\text{Na}_2\text{O}$  of sodium silicate in the step of (a) is 2.1:1 - 3.8:1.

7. The process as set forth in claim 5, wherein the step of (b) is conducted at 100 - 150 °C.

8. The process as set forth in claim 5 or 7, wherein the slurry contains 50 – 70 % of water in the step of (b).